



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
1102 Q Street • Suite 3000 • Sacramento, CA 95811

July 20, 2021

Tom Webster
Vote Tom Webster for P-BVUSD School Board



Warning Letter Re: FPPC No. 2021-00346; Vote Tom Webster for P-BVUSD School Board and Tom Webster

Dear Mr. Webster:

The Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act").¹ In response to the Enforcement Division's pre-election outreach efforts, we were made aware by the Kern County Elections Office that you and Vote Tom Webster for P-BVUSD School Board (the "Committee") failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement in connection with the November 3, 2020 General Election.

The Enforcement Division has completed its review of the facts in this case. Specifically, we found that you and the Committee failed to timely file a pre-election campaign statement for the period ending on September 19, 2020 by the September 24, 2020 deadline.

The Act requires candidate-controlled committees to file two pre-election campaign statements at specified times prior to the election in which the candidate will be on the ballot.² Controlling candidates and committee treasurers are jointly and severally liable for violations by the committee.³

Your actions violated the Act because you and the Committee failed to timely file the first pre-election campaign statement for the period ending on September 19, 2020 by the September 24, 2020 deadline. However, the Enforcement Division has decided to close this case with this warning letter rather than a fine because you attempted to timely file the statement in question,

¹ The Political Reform Act is contained in Government Code sections 81000 through 91014, and all statutory references are to this code. The regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission are contained in Sections 18110 through 18997 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, and all regulatory references are to this source.

² Section 84200.5.

³ Sections 83116.5 and 91006.

and you filed the statement on October 1, 2020 after being contacted by the Enforcement Division. Additionally, you timely filed the second pre-election campaign statement and a termination campaign statement and terminated the Committee as of December 15, 2020. Finally, you were an unsuccessful first-time candidate, and you have no history of violating the Act.

Please note that while the Enforcement Division is closing this matter without a fine, your filing officer, the Kern County Elections Office, may assess late filing penalties. This letter serves as a written warning. The information in this matter will be retained and may be considered should an enforcement action become necessary based on newly discovered information or future conduct. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act in the future will result in monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 for each violation.

A warning letter is an Enforcement Division case resolution without administrative prosecution or fine. The Commission has adopted Regulation 18360.1 to authorize the Enforcement Division to issue warning letters to conclude cases in specified circumstances. However, the warning letter resolution does not provide you with the opportunity for a probable cause hearing or hearing before an Administrative Law Judge or the Commission. If you wish to avail yourself of these proceedings by requesting that your case proceed with prosecution rather than a warning, please notify us within ten (10) days from the date of this letter. Upon this notification, the Enforcement Division will rescind this warning letter and proceed with administrative prosecution of this case. If we do not receive such notification, this warning letter will be posted on the Commission's website ten (10) days from the date of this letter.

Please feel free to contact Dominika Wojenska at dwojenska@fppc.ca.gov or (916) 322-2043 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Angela J. Brereton

Angela J. Brereton, Chief
Enforcement Division

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